

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A DVD video player comprising:

first and second nonvolatile memories for storing data indicating the operating state of the DVD video player;

5 an end-of-writing detecting unit for detecting completion of the writing for the first and second memories;

a last-written nonvolatile memory storage unit for storing data indicating the memory of the first and second memories to which writing is to be applied when completion of writing is detected by said end-of-writing detecting unit; and

a writing-memory selecting unit for causing said memory selecting means to switch from the indicated memory to the other memory after writing to the indicated memory is completed,

wherein data indicating the last play state from said memory, selected based on data stored in said last-written memory storage unit is read when power for the DVD video player is turned on.

2. A DVD video player according to Claim 1, wherein the data indicating the operating state of the DVD video player comprises play-position data in DVD video data.

20 3. A DVD video player according to Claim 1, wherein the data indicating the operating state of the DVD video player comprises disc identification data in DVD video data.

25 4. A DVD video player according to Claim 1, wherein the data indicating the operating state of the DVD video player comprises playback-mode data of the DVD video player.

5. A DVD video player according to Claim 1, wherein the data indicating the operating state of the DVD video player comprises play-position data and disc identification data in DVD video data.

6. A DVD video player according to Claim 1, wherein the data indicating the operating state of the DVD video player comprises play-position data in DVD video data and playback-mode data of the DVD video player.

7. A DVD video playback method comprising the acts of:

writing playback-state data alternately to nonvolatile first and second memories whenever the playback state of a DVD video player changes during playback of a DVD video disc;

storing data indicating the memory of the first and second memories to which writing is to be applied when writing to each of the first and second memories is complete; and

reading the playback-state data from the memory of the first and second memories indicated by the data stored in said last-written memory storage unit when power for the DVD video player is turned on, whereby the DVD video disc is played back based on the read playback-state data.

8. A DVD video playback method according to Claim 7, wherein:

said playback-state data comprises play-position data in DVD video data; and

when power for the DVD player is turned on, playback is performed based on the play-position data from where playback is last performed.

9. A DVD video playback method according to Claim 7, wherein:

said playback-state data comprises disc-identification data in DVD video data; and

when power for the DVD video player is turned on, playback of the last played back DVD is performed based on the disc-identification data.

10. A DVD video playback method according to Claim 7, wherein:

said playback-state data comprises playback-mode data of the DVD video player; and

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when power for the DVD video player is turned on, playback is performed using the last used playback mode based on the playback-mode data.

5           11. A DVD video playback method according to Claim 7, wherein:  
                  said playback-state data comprises the play-position data in  
                  DVD video data and the playback-mode data of the DVD player; and  
                  when power for the DVD video is turned on, playback is  
                  performed from the last play position using the last playback mode based on  
                  the play-position data and the playback-mode data.

10           12. A DVD video player comprising:  
                  first and second nonvolatile memories for alternately storing  
                  playback-state data indicating the operating state of the DVD video player  
                  therein whenever the playback state of the DVD video player changes; and  
                  a last-written nonvolatile memory storage unit for storing data  
                  indicating the memory of the first and second memories to which writing is to  
                  be applied when writing to the indicated memory is complete  
                  wherein said playback state data is read from the memory of the  
                  first and second memories indicated by the data stored in said last-written  
                  memory storage unit and playback of the disc is performed based on the  
                  playback-state data when power for the DVD video player is turned on.

15           13. A DVD video playback method comprising the acts of:  
                  providing play position data;  
                  writing the play position data to a nonvolatile memory when play  
                  position data is updated during the playback of a DVD video;  
                  storing last-written memory data that indicates where the most  
                  recent play position data is stored;  
                  reading the play-position data from a memory indicated by said  
                  last-written memory data; and  
                  playing said DVD video from a previous play position.

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14. The DVD video playback method of Claim 13, wherein the play position data includes video object unit data in DVD video data.

15. A DVD video playback method comprising the acts of:  
writing play position data alternately to two nonvolatile memories  
5 whenever the play position data is updated during playback of a DVD video disc;

10 storing last-written memory data indicating the memory of said two nonvolatile memories to which writing is to be applied when writing the play position data to the indicated memory is complete; and

15 when power for the DVD video player is turned on, reading the play-position data from the memory indicated by said last-written memory data whereby the DVD video disc is played back from the play position.

16. A DVD video playback method according to Claim 15, wherein said play-position data comprises video object unit data in DVD video data.

17. A DVD video playback method comprising the acts of:  
writing playback-mode data alternately to two nonvolatile memories whenever a playback mode is changed during playback of a DVD video disc;

20 storing last-written memory data indicating the memory of said two nonvolatile memories to which writing is to be applied after writing the playback-mode data to the indicated memory is complete; and

when power for the DVD video player is turned on, reading the playback-mode data from the memory indicated by said last-written memory data whereby the DVD video disc is played back using the playback mode.

25 18. The DVD video playback method of Claim 17, wherein said playback-mode data is normal playback mode data, a fast-forward playback mode data, a rewinding playback mode data, or a pause playback mode data.

19. The DVD video playback method of Claim 17, wherein said playback-mode data comprises data indicating a subtitle setting and a language setting of the DVD video player.